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The Dahlia Farm

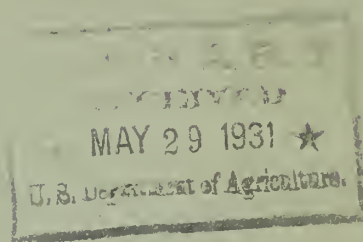
"On The Sunrise Trail"

EAST MORICHES

LONG ISLAND

NEW YORK

Federal Horticultural Society



Our Special Prizes for 1925

THE DARNELL CUP.—Given each year at the show held by the AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY in New York City, for the purpose of advancing the Dahlia as a commercial cut flower. For the past two years this prize has called for 25 blooms, but for 1925 will demand only 12 blooms, in the hope that more amateurs will enter this interesting class.

BEST KEEPING VARIETY, OPEN TO ALL.—12 flowers in one vase. Any type or class of dahlia, to be judged by A. D. S. scale, condition on last day to count 50 per cent. All entries to be in place at time set by committee, and flowers to be left untouched till final judging. Silver Cup, value \$25.00.

THE DAHLIA FARM CUP.—(For New York Show). A silver cup, value \$25.00, for the largest bloom of **CAPTAIN JOHN** or **JEAN ROOSEVELT**.

THE DARNELL GOLD MEDAL, with \$50.00 for the gardener.

Eight vases, three blooms to a vase, of the following eight varieties: Agincourt, Betty Darnell, Jeanette Selinger, Louise Parsons, Margaret Yardley, Martha, Polly Graham, and Scaramouche.

This former sweepstake entailed too much work and travel, totaling the winning points at the many local shows, and in future will be given for the winning collection of our dahlias at the New York Show. The Gold Medal will go to the exhibitor, and the \$50.00 in gold to the gardener who raised the winning flowers.

CAPTAIN JOHN (Dec.). This seedling of Captain John Howell's is a bright gold, flushed salmon pink. A remarkable dahlia on strong stem. Very large and one of the most attractive we grow \$10.00

Joseph Conrad during his American visit said:

"Though the dahlia is the newest of all flowers, and still but little known, already it is the largest and most beautiful flower in the best gardens."

And when the Cherubim had driven out all living things from the garden—and the great desert had closed in and blotted out the place thereof, the Lord God came to see that all had been done, even as He commanded.

And as the Lord God walked alone He beheld a plant that had not left the garden. And God saw that the plant held its blossoms high above the drifting sands.

And the Lord God said:

"Because you have dared to disobey My word, you shall be cast out to the farthest place. Cursed is the land for Adam's sake, and in the wildest land shalt thou be lost, and man shall not know you for a million years."

And the flower answered:

"O Lord God, the time of my punishment will seem as a day, for in the end will I rise and Queen it over all the flowers of the earth, for I alone have looked on the face of God, and shall mirror the Glory Thereof forever."

Old Legend.

Resurgam

The gates were closed, and the Cherubim
Stood guard with flaming sword
While the burning desert sands rolled in
The vengeance of the Lord.
Billow on billow, a molten sea
Spread wide to an amber sky
That glowered in brazen malignancy
And watched a God-dream die.

From rim to rim hung a quiescent dread;
No trace of garden showed;
And the shifting sands filled in the bed
Where the four-head river flowed.
Into virgin lands, far, far away,
Man, beast, and tree had fled;
And the Lord God walked in the cool of day
To mourn beside His dead.

And He came where one exquisite flower,
Held high in the fading glow,
Flaunted its glory in that last hour,
Above the creeping foe.
And the Lord God said: "All growing things
Have followed the man, but you
Have dared to stay; your one hour brings
An æon's duress and rue.

For them the striving to gain the crest:
Sunlight, laughter, and love;
The labor of day, the night and rest:
Soft earth, the stars above.
Penance, then peace; joy mantling the earth,
Life spreading, zone on zone
To the furthest rim. There, dread and dearth,
Travail and you, alone."

And the flower spoke: "Lord, no choice was mine;
This spot was marked for me,
Your issue and thrall; the power is Thine,
I bow to the scourge and Thee.
The years will pass; when I rise again
Shrived of Thy word and rod
Having seen Thy face, I shall queen it then,
And mirror the Glory of God."

Federal Horticultural Board

PLEASE READ BEFORE ORDERING

TO those who are unacquainted with the different classes and varieties of Dahlias I would suggest that such leave the selection to me. Send the amount you wish to invest, and my liberal filling of the order will be more than satisfactory.

AS ORDERS ARE FILLED IN ROTATION—with field grown roots only—ordering early will insure the reservation of varieties that later may be sold out. **CASH WITH ORDER.** All orders will be shipped after May 1st, by express or insured mail at my expense. Dahlias ordered shipped before April 15th will be sent at purchaser's risk of drying out, freezing or rotting.

GUARANTEE—I guarantee safe arrival of all goods. I guarantee all bulbs to be true to name, and will cheerfully replace if not. **DO NOT PLANT TUBERS IMMEDIATELY ON RECEIPT OF SAME.** Put in warm, sunny position, cover lightly with damp sand, and when sprout or eye makes positive growth, plant where desired. If, for any reason, tubers fail to grow, they can be returned at once, without labor or loss of time, with tag attached, and each tuber so returned will be replaced.

SIZE OF BULBS.—The size of the bulb or tuber does not in any way designate the size or quality of the flower. Some varieties of Dahlias always produce very small bulbs, while other varieties make large ones. The only requisite of a Dahlia bulb is the certainty of having one strong eye or sprout, and whether large or small, proper cultivation assures success. A division of a clump, pot-root, cutting, sprout, and even a Dahlia seed, will grow and blossom, equally well.

REMITTANCES should be made by bank draft, postoffice money order or registered letter. **POSTOFFICE MONEY ORDERS MUST BE MADE PAYABLE AT EAST MORICHES, N. Y.** Postage stamps accepted up to \$2.00.

ERRORS.—While my system for handling orders is as near perfect as possible, in the rush of business errors are possible. If promptly notified of such, will at once make same satisfactory. Keep copy of your order for comparison.

NAME AND ADDRESS.—Remember to write your NAME, POSTOFFICE, COUNTY and STATE PLAINLY.

HOW TO GROW EXHIBITION BLOOMS.—Producing exhibition blooms is not a mysterious art. Late planting, severe pruning and disbudding, fertilizing and irrigating, and above all, constant cultivation, assure success, where size is demanded. For such flowers the soil cannot be too rich. Spade or plough in a thick dressing of stable manure during fall, barrow, then seed to some cover crop—rye is as good as any—to keep the ground employed and assure humus for retaining of moisture and keeping soil friable during the summer heat. By the middle of May you will have a fine crop to plough or spade under, when the land may be made ready for dahlia tubers. To guarantee the finest blooms July 1st planting is advocated. In fact, the finest blooms I saw on Long Island this past season, (and that means the finest grown anywhere) came from tubers planted August 10.

When ready to plant, furrows or holes should be opened to depth of six inches, the tuber laid on its side, sprout uppermost and the earth filled in. When the sprout is above the surface—if more than one, remove all but the strongest—pinch back to compel branching at ground level, guard against cutworms, and keep the ground loose with rake or cultivator. When the buds appear, remove all but the terminal bud—if that is imperfect, choose another—and cut off side shoots full length of stem with a sharp knife, leaving the lower part of the foliage to act as lungs for the plant. To produce some of the immense flowers seen in competition, this art of forcing is often carried to a point where the tubers have little value. Too much fertilizing and watering is very injurious to the tuber crop, and forced plants produce small and imperfect flowers the following season. Much experiment and study has convinced me that field-grown dahlia roots keep better, and produce more and better flowers during the season following a dry year, and we always eye with suspicion any grown under irrigation. We know that a hard keeper like Geisha keeps best when grown in sandy soil, and rain is scarce.

HARD WOODED PLANTS.—If tubers are planted early in rich soil, forcing quick growth, and the season is hot and dry, there is cause for much disappointment. Hardened wood results, few blooms and imperfect flowers. If this is your case, be not dismayed. Cut the plant back to the ground—if the idea scares you, try two-thirds—and the new soft growth will soon burst into beauty with perfect flowers. Feed them a little, ease them of their load by disbudding, and watch the plant respond.

WATERING.—We have always produced flowers of quality in quantity without any irrigation, depending on the natural moisture alone, while conserving it by constant use of cultivator or rake. But while we contend that watering is harmful to tubers, a judicious use of the hydrant is a great help in the production of large blooms. In watering, care must be taken that it is thorough, wetting the soil deep; and if the surface is then kept well stirred to preserve the moisture applied, one will find a soaking or two enough for the driest season. **CHECKING EVAPORATION AT THE SURFACE CHECKS THE NEED OF A HOSE.**

HOW TO KEEP CUT BLOOMS OF DAHLIAS.—Freshly cut flowers will keep considerably longer, and wilted flowers, if not in too serious condition, will be entirely restored in appearance, if the following suggestions are followed: Cut blossoms in early part of the day, whenever possible. Fill receptacle with water near the boiling point, 200° is correct. Plunge the stems, but not the foliage, 6 inches into the water, let them remain until it cools, then transfer into cold water.

PLANTING—THE TIME—May 1st to August 1st.

THE PLACE—In the open air and sunshine, away from shrubs, trees, and shady places.

HOW—In hills or drills, six inches deep, three or four feet apart each way.

Too much nitrogen in soil will produce large bushy plants with a scarcity of blooms.

For large flowers feed the plant when buds develop.

FERTILIZING WHEN PLANTING FEEDS THE BUSH.

STAKING.—For specimen plants staking is advocated. When planting tubers drive stake in beside tuber before covering, and when plant reaches a height of two feet, secure it to the stake, repeating operation when plants make fuller growth. This will keep the stalk from being broken by the wind and assure perfect protection.

DIGGING FOR WINTER.—As soon as the frost cuts the tops of the dahlias, the sap recedes into the roots. Then is the best time to dig. Cut the stalks back to within three inches of the crown. In digging use a spade, and dig wide of the plant, say fifteen inches, to avoid cutting the tubers. By digging wide you take no risks. Do not pull the clumps out of the ground, but dig deep and lift the soil and tubers as you go 'round the plant. This enables you to get the clumps without breaking the necks. A clear, sunny day is ideal for digging dahlias, and when you have lifted the clumps allow them to stand in the sun for three hours to dry, when the tubers are ready for their permanent storing place.



IF there was one new dahlia that stood out during the past season it was Mueller's decorative, ROBERT TREAT. For those who crave size it has that to spare, and its color, a duplicate of the old Hybrid Show AMERICAN BEAUTY, with an added sheen that gives it life, is a very desirable color. I had not seen it previous to the New York show, and ran into it first in the hands of Miss Margaret Wilson, and knowing the ceremony of naming a dahlia for her had been staged just before I arrived, I congratulated her on the taste displayed in her choice, and voiced my envy of the lucky originator of the flower that carried her name. She showed me my error, and took me to see the one that had just been christened for her, and after a critical survey of all the dahlias in the Armory, I went back to ROBERT TREAT and decided that variety was the best of the season's offerings. JERSEY'S BEAUTY showed up just as well as during the previous year, and nearly every exhibit carried one or more blooms of this fine variety.

ELITE GLORY was shown at the top of its form, and there are thousands to whom its immense size will appeal, though it is too coarse a bloom to do more than swagger its short day, and then, pass into limbo. My daughter gave me an inkling of how such a giant strikes many flower lovers.

"Dad, come and meet Mrs. Wiggs!" "Mrs. Riggs?" I thought she had mentioned an old friend.

"Mrs. Wiggs! Mrs. Wiggs of the cabbage patch!"

That's how big it is, and if you are keen for the glory of growing the biggest bloom in your show, try ELITE GLORY.

One of the things that struck me most, when viewing the few new dahlias, was the real quality, or I had better say, the commercial value of most of them like MERRICK, MORDELLA, TRENTONIAN, HARRY HOLBROOK, this last having the characteristic of JERSEY'S BEAUTY, the laying back of petals that assures a good keeping cut flower. An English cactus that I have bragged of ever since Stredwick listed it in 1918, came to the fore at this show, that pink beauty, MRS. ALFRED HARVEY, a dahlia that we have never had enough of to list, as our stock is always sold before digging time.

Of the whites there were no new ones to rave over. Judge Marean's POLAR SNOW, a beautiful flower, showed up as well as it had two years ago, and Mrs. Stout's WHITE SISTER was good. WORLD'S BEST WHITE looked fine, but ROBERT LAURIE BLACK was the one best bet in white last season. The flowers were immense, the depth remarkable, and the glowing color, a white that seems to have robbed the sun of some of its light, is extremely pleasing. The fact that this very good dahlia failed miserably at Storrs, shows how little value there is in the snap judgment of one season, though I am inclined to believe that all the original stock was weak when sent out, as it was a failure here the first year.

Of the yellows and bronzes, Capt. John R. Howell's seedling and namesake, CAPT. JOHN, a very large decorative of "BILLIONAIRE" gold, slightly flushed salmon, is hard to beat. This variety has been one of the sensational dahlias among the country's best, grown for display at Bronx Park, and I thought so well of it that I took over the whole stock. If there is any better flower of its color I have failed to run across it.

Californian dahlias were practically snowed under by the Eastern varieties, and I think it due to there being such masses of the Eastern flowers. The showing of SAGAMORE, the immense basket of glorious blooms framed in black and green that John Sheepers at his best never surpassed, was a picture worth traveling a week to see. It was the most artistic and gorgeous ensemble ever staged, and the master who splashed that dream at the end of the hall deserved a gold cup the size of his basket. An artist friend of mine who is well known as a painter of landscapes, spent an hour gazing at it from every angle possible, and a girl I have never heard gush in all the time I've known her, called it "gaspingly glorious." It robbed the judges of sight and reason.

To choose the best varieties from among the hundreds benched in a season is not possible for a mere man. Every one that looks worth while, I buy and try, and many not worth a tinker's dam, because of some bad characteristic, I grow for my own pleasure because of some trait that sets them apart. But one could not end a talk on the shows without mention of such dahlias as LORNA SLOCOMBE, a flower to which one can truly give the adjective glorious, of Grienberg's GIANT RUBY, a king among reds.

At the County Fair, which opened for a five-day run on the same day as the A. D. S. show in New York, and where we have to concentrate our forces if we would hang on to our lead, the growers make a better showing because the battlefield is nearer home, but the varieties benched, as in New York, seemed to be Eastern by a large margin. John Lewis Childs again showed PENATAQUIT in a way that proves

it one of the best, and it stood out boldly even among the thousands of flowers in their exhibit. Both Childs and Howell had more Californian varieties than I. Here is the list that won us the blue for the best 100 varieties:

Cactus

ALEX. KENNEDY, CORONIA, F. W. FELLOWES, JULIAN, MRS. ALFRED HARVEY, MRS. COOPER, NORMAN, OCEANIC, PIERROT, SILVERHILL PARK, VALIANT, VICAR OF WASPERTON.

Shows

BETTY BIRD, D. M. MOORE, DREER'S WHITE, FLORENCE, GEN. MILES, GOLD MEDAL, GRACCHUS, GRAND DUCHESS MARIE, LILY P. HATHAWAY, MRS. J. P. SMITH, NORTH CAROLINA, TOM JONES.

Hybrid Cactus

AMBASSADOR, COLLOSSAL PEACE, ESTHER R. HOLMES, ETENDARD DE LYON, LADY HELEN, LOLITA VELASCO, MANDALAY, MRS. BAILEY, NEW MOON, NIBELUNGENHORT, RED CROSS, RHEIMS, RUTH VAN FLEET, SCARAMOUCHE, SISKIYOU, SUNKIST.

Peony

AUDREY, AUTUMN GLORY, BETTY DARNELL, DEVOTION, DREAM LIGHT, DRUM MAJOR, EDITH CAVELL, F. G. SCHEIFF, GEISHA, LADY BETTY, MEYERBEER, PACIFIC SUNSET, PRIDE OF PORTLAND, UNCLE SAM.

Decoratives

AGINCOURT, AIBONITA, AMUN RA, BASHFUL GIANT, BEN WILSON, BRUSHWOOD BOY, CAMBRIA, CHARM, CLARA FINGER, DAGMAR, DOROTHY LONG, ELIZABETH SLOCOMBE, E. T. BEDFORD, EL DORADO, FLANDERS FIELDS, HEART OF DARKNESS, HORTULANUS FIET, HERCULES, INSULINDE, JEAN ROOSEVELT, JEANETTE SELINGER, JERSEY'S EMPEROR, JUDGE MAREAN, JUNIOR, JACQUELINE DARNELL, MARGARET YARDLEY, MARTHA, MILDRED BURGESS, MILLIONAIRE, MRS. ATHERTON, MRS. I. DE VER WARNER, MRS. JOHN SHEEPERS, MYRA VALENTINE, PERFECT BEAUTY, PENATAQUIT, PROXIE, OCONEE, RED PLANET, ROBERT LAURIE BLACK, SAMADH, SAMPSON, THE SUNRISE TRAIL, THE EMPEROR, TUSITALA, WONDER, WORLD'S BEST WHITE.

But after a growing or bowing acquaintance with nearly all listed dahlias, governed, as one will be, by the expressions and opinions of others, I set down these three for my choice, as the best of all dahlias to date: First, that incomparable MRS. I. DE VER WARNER; secondly, JERSEY'S BEAUTY, greatest of all commercial dahlias, and thirdly, JEAN ROOSEVELT, which is not only a very beautiful dahlia, but larger than either of the others. The flower with which we won first prize in the largest Decorative class at our County Fair in 1923 covered a dinner plate, entirely hiding it.

Regarding my first choice, I am happy to state that most of the growers who have no two-edged sword ready in defense of their own seedlings, agree with me. Even when a peony,—and the dahlia does not exist that will not show an open center at some time—it is still the best of the type, with its exquisitely whorled corona, and many a superlative (?) dahlia will come and go before the all-round equal of MRS. I. DE VER WARNER is produced.

JERSEY'S BEAUTY as a second choice may cause some argument, but it is the best commercial possibility in sight at this time. It has everything the florist demands, color, stem and substance, and no matter how large one grows it, one cannot rob it of its grace. I think this one dahlia will still be listed by all growers a decade or two after all the "gorgeous, glorious, wonderful, magnificent, resplendent, marvelous, phenomenal, etc., etc." dahlias of today have passed from memory.

I place JEAN ROOSEVELT third because it was the first choice and the biggest seller among all the varieties I grew during the past season, and because it is my own particular pet. Grown in the show plot, beside all the best American and European varieties, flanked by AMBASSADOR and EL DORADO, with a row of JUDGE MAREAN and one of MYRA VALENTINE flanking these, in spite of the higher price it outsold them all, and was the first choice of most other visitors who could not afford the more costly varieties. THE SUNRISE TRAIL, because of its brilliant scarlet and gold, that smote the eye immediately, attracted most attention, but JEAN ROOSEVELT ran far ahead in sales.

CACTUS DAHLIAS

THIS type of dahlia came about through the efforts of European—especially English—gardeners to produce a more loose artistic flower, to spur the waning interest of a public “fed up” on the stiff show and the small single. Previous to the introduction of the Cactus type, the dahlias that grew in spite of care—rather than because of it—in our grandmother’s gardens, were as round, hard, stiff and ungraceful as a green apple, their sole virtues being a touch of color, and unequal sturdiness. The first Cactus dahlia named Juarez, in honor of President Juarez of Mexico, and called a cactus because of its resemblance in color to the red cactus of the plains, was found in Juxphaur, Mexico, in 1872 by J. T. Vanderberg, and sent by him to an English florist, who exhibited it in England in 1882. Its graceful form and brilliant color at once captured the fancy of flower lovers, and today there is no flower more popular. The progeny of Dahlia Juarezi not only “broke” into various colors, but different shapes as well. It was by selecting the most desirable of these, and reselecting the finest from each succeeding generation of plants, that the Cactus Dahlia has arrived at its present state of perfection. Today this variety is divided into two groups; the fluted and Hybrid types, classified by the American Dahlia Society as follows:

a. True, fluted type. Flowers fully double; floral rays (petals) long, narrow, incurved or twisted, with sharp, divided, or fluted points and with revolute (rolled back) margins, forming, in the outer florets, a more or less perfect tube for more than half the length of the ray.

b. Hybrid cactus or semi-cactus type: Flowers fully double; floral rays short as compared with previous type, broad, flat, recurved or twisted, not sharply pointed except when tips are divided (staghorn), margins only slightly revolute, and tubes of outer florets, if any, less than half the length of the ray.

ALDERMAN. Clear golden orange at base, deepening at the points, with deeper reddish tint on unopened florets. Always good, on fine stem .....	.50
ALEX KENNEDY. Deep crimson, fine stems	1.00
A. R. PERRY. A large incurved flower of old rose tipped gold, on good stem	1.00
BRIDAL ROBE. Pure white, incurved and artistic...	.25
BRISBANE. A very large flower on long, stiff stems, color bright orange scarlet .....	.75
COCKATOO. Yellow, or white, or both, odd and fine .....	.25
CORONIA. Clear yellow, slightly incurved and very large	1.00
COUNTRY GIRL. Golden yellow. A fine garden variety .....	.25
CRYSTAL. Incurved tubular petals of silvery pink around an ivory center. A splendid flower. Large .....	.75
CURLEW. Old rose color, massive full flowers, with very long florets incurving over center. Splendid shape	1.00
DAINTY. Yellow, pink and old gold .....	.25
DAISY STAPLES. Mauve pink .....	.25
DIBS. Rose pink, tipped gold .....	.50
ELSE. Salmon pink .....	.50
EMPIRE. Rich raspberry red, large and good	2.00
EVENING STAR. Bright gold, terra-cotta tipped petals .....	.50
FRANCES WHITE. Narrow white florets, curling and twisting cork-screw fashion .....	.75
F. W. FELLOWS. This variety produces large blooms with narrow florets, flower stems wiry, color bright orange scarlet. Very free, and one of the best...	.75
GOLDEN WAVE. A rich, deep yellow, on strong stem .....	.50
GOLIATH. Yellow, tipped and shaded salmon.....	.25
GOLDEN PLOVER. A very fine English variety, yellow .....	.75
GUARDIAN. Crimson scarlet, a striking flower on fine stem	1.00
GWENDOLYN TUCKER. Pale flesh color .....	.50
H. H. THOMAS. Free flowering variety, possessing long straight stems and producing its flowers well above the foliage. The color is a beautiful deep crimson .....	.75
HERBERT RABY. A long, incurving petaled exhibition cactus of wine crimson .....	.50
HOMER. Incurved, with good stems, nearly black ...	.75
IVORY. A finely formed flower of ivory white .....	.50
JOHN PEEL. Intense rich crimson without shading, florets beautifully formed and nicely incurved, flowers borne on stiff stems .....	.50
JULIAN. A superb flower of flesh pink, lightening in center with narrow florets moderately incurved...	1.00
LAWINE. Pure white .....	.25

LIEU. ROBINSON, V. C. An exhibition variety with incurving petals, of a soft rosy cerise .....	.75
MARATHON. A brilliant French purple, shading lighter on some of the petals .....	.50
MARGUERITE BOUCHON. Deep pink with white centre .....	.75
MAUVE QUEEN. A beautiful clear mauve .....	.50
MELODY. One of the most distinct, color being clear yellow for half the length of florets, balance pure white .....	.50
MEVROUW BALLEGO. A showy flower of brilliant garnet, the broad fluted petals shaded scarlet.....	.50
MINNIE BAXTER. Deep maroon, fine stems .....	.50
MISS JUDD. Lemon yellow tinged pink, fine .....	.50
MR. GEORGE CASELTON. Dark maroon, shaded purple .....	.25
MRS. ALFRED HARVEY. Light salmon-pink, deepening at base of petals. Strong stem, and best English cactus known	2.00
MRS. CHARLES COOPER. An immense flower of creamy salmon. Petals narrow and straight.....	1.00
MRS. DOUGLASS FLEMING. The finest white cactus yet raised, the florets are narrow and so numerous that they make a most massive flower .....	.50
MRS. E. S. BROWN. A grand variety for garden or cutting, intense crimson, good stem .....	.50
MRS. FREEMAN THOMAS. Rich salmon tinted heliotrope. Of good form, large, and perfect stem....	.50
MRS. H. J. JONES. Scarlet, tipped white .....	.25
MRS. HERBERT BLACKMAN. Rosy pink, white center, very fine for garden or exhibition	1.00
MRS. J. EMBERSON. Lemon yellow, slashed pink...	.25
MRS. MARGARET STREDWICK. New English cactus of soft pink, deeper at tips and base. Incurved, large and vigorous	1.50
MRS. REGINALD BAILEY. Purplish crimson .....	.50
MRS. REGINALD GURNEY. Amber and rose.....	.25
MRS. SEALE. Rich crimson, with pink tips .....	.25
NEPTUNE. Deep lavender pink, penciled carmine...	.50
NORMAN. Orange scarlet, good stem and large....	.75
PIERROT. The color is deep amber, each petal boldly tipped white. Unique flower and if disbudded, huge .....	.75
OCEANIC. Huge flower of rosy orange, tipped yellow	1.00
PENNANT. Beautiful clear coral, finely incurved, on strong stem	2.00
PICOTEE. Crimson carmine with silvery white reverse .....	.50
PINK PEARL. Beautiful flesh pink .....	.25
PRIMA DONNA. Ivory white, tinted with violet.....	.50
REV. T. W. JAMIESON. Yellow and lilac rose .....	.25

RHEINISCHER FROHSINN. This is a large incurving flower white at base, changing to carmine rose. Of splendid form .....	.75
RHEIN KONIG. Snow white .....	.50
ROTHER. Dark red .....	.35
ROYAL SUSSEX. Large incurved flower of glowing red shaded orange. Large, on strong wiry stems .....	.75
SILVERHILL PARK. A grand white, massive in size, and beautifully incurved	2.00
SWEETBRIAR. An exquisite shade of pink. Always a mass of flowers, standing well above the foliage..	.50
SOLEIL COUCHANT. A glorious bright salmon, shaded orange scarlet. Fine exhibition variety...	.50
ST. LEONARDS. A very showy flat petaled flower of orange center, outer half scarlet. Stem erect.....	.50

THOMAS CHALLIS. A very rich tone of salmon-red. The florets are beautifully incurved and arranged with the utmost regularity. This variety can be recommended as one of the best for cut flower purposes .....	.50
VESUVE. Rich geranium lake .....	.75
VICAR OF WASPERTON. Base of petals a beautiful pink with overlay of yellow, edging off to a delicate cameo pink, the center of flower a charming primrose yellow. This new creation is one of the best of the English importations, ideal for exhibition purposes, the florets long, tightly quilled, and beautifully incurved	2.00
VULCAN. A remarkably full and large English flower. Color deep maroon, good stem	1.00

HYBRID CACTUS

AMBASSADOR. Soft yellow-buff, shaded salmon pink. Splendid flower on good stem	5.00
AMBER GLOW. Bright yellow, deepening to orange at center. Unbeatable for exhibition	1.00
ATTRACTION. Large, full flower, of a clear lilac-rose. The habit is perfect, with long strong stems holding the bloom stiff and upright	1.00
AVALANCHE. Pure white, of the same type as Kalif. The flowers are large and are produced on long, stiff stems, well above the foliage .....	.50
BALLET GIRL. A very attractive dahlia, orange and white. Very free blooming, flowers large	1.00
BIANCA. Beautiful rose-lilac with white shading, held perfectly erect on strong, stiff stem. Free flowering .....	.50
CALIFORNIA ENCHANTRESS. A large bloom of great substance and a delightful shade of pale pink. Hybrid cactus are greatly in demand because of their size and erect stems. This has both these admirable qualities, combined with freedom in flowering....	1.00
CIGARETTE. A bizarre variety of Bessie Boston's well named after Ouida's much loved vivandiere. Cream white, tipped, splashed or suffused burnt orange. Fine stem and wonderful keeper	3.50
COLOSSAL PEACE. A massive cactus dahlia of the Kalif form and size, often measuring eight inches across; late in season the flower shows center. Color creamy white, shading violet rose with lighter tips	1.00
DADDY BUTLER. Rosy carmine, with lighter reverse.	3.00
DOROTHY DURNBAUGH. A most attractive shade of deep rich pink, of fine form and habit, with strong stems, that hold up well; one of the best cactus dahlias	1.00
EDITH SLOCOMBE. A very attractive flower of rich garnet, twisting and curling to show darker reverse. Fine flower on wiry stem	1.00
ELSIE OLIVER. A lovely pastel in pink and cream, of good size on fine stem .....	.50
ESTHER R. HOLMES. Pink lavender, profuse bloomer, and fine cutter	2.00
ETENDARD DE LYON. A flower more than six inches in diameter and four inches deep, but without stiffness or formality. Color a rich Royal Purple with a brilliant suffusion difficult to describe .....	.75
GARIBALDI. A very full and large flower with fluffy petals on a good stem. Color is a bright scarlet..	.75
GEORGE WALTERS. The most wonderful Garden Dahlia ever offered. Of exquisite coloring, being a bright salmon-pink, artistically suffused with old gold .....	.75
GLADYS BATES. An American cactus of tan, the incurved petals showing the rose reverse. Profuse, on strong stems, and of fine form	1.00
GLADYS SHERWOOD. A white hybrid cactus of fine form, held erect on good stem. The flowers are often 7 to 8 inches in diameter. A profuse bloomer	1.00
GOLDEN WEST. One of the very best of its type. Has extra long stems, graceful and wiry. Old gold .....	.50
ISLAM PATROL. A very showy and distinct variety, of dark scarlet, tipped and flushed with gold	5.00
KALIF. A monster cactus of perfect form. Color is a rich, pure scarlet, borne on long, stiff stems.....	.75
JEAN CHAZOT. Golden bronze, suffused nasturtium red. One of the best importations in years	1.00

LA FAVORITA. A splendid novelty, shading from a dark reddish salmon in the center to salmon pink at the twisted points. Perfect form; strong, long stem	1.00
LADY HELEN. A very beautiful flower, popular everywhere; in color a mixture of carmine rose and cream, with cream tips. Splendid stems and large	1.50
LOLITA VELASCO. A very fine white on best of stems	5.00
MALCOLM. Burnt orange. Fine exhibition flower..	1.00
MANDALAY. Yellow overlaid with bronze, the twisting petals showing reddish bronze reverse. Very attractive	5.00
MARIPOSA. Violet pink, deeper in center. This is an exceptional hybrid cactus, of great depth and substance, on strong stem, and has few peers for exhibition or cutting	3.50
MINAMOTO. A velvety scarlet of good size. Good stem	1.00
MRS. EDNA SPENCER. A flower of a delicate and exquisite shade of orchid pink. Very beautiful and of good formation and stems. A lasting cut flower .....	.75
MRS. BAILEY. A very large flower of pleasing formation. A deep crimson merging into dull garnet...	1.50
MRS. R. LOHRMAN. A pure golden yellow with a full center and immense size	1.00
MRS. ETHEL F. T. SMITH. Creamy white shading to sulphur center. Very large on good stems	1.00
MT. SHASTA. Shell pink, suffused lavender pink. A fine dahlia on long stem	1.00
NEW MOON. Canary yellow sometimes tipped white	2.50
NIBELUNGENHORT. Large broad petaled, more or less twisted, a beautiful shade of old rose, tinged golden apricot. Very free .....	.75
RED CROSS. One of the very best Dahlias in existence, a beautiful combination of red and yellow. It is a very strong grower, and flowers freely on long, strong stems	1.00
RHEIMS. Delicate salmon pink shading to orange, with lighter tips. A glorious garden or exhibition variety	1.00
RUTH C. GLEADELL. A soft yellow, shading to an apricot blossom on the outer petals .....	.50
RUTH VAN FLEET. Clear light canary yellow, stems extra long, flowers large, and held perfectly erect..	1.00
SCARAMOUCHE. This is a very fine American cactus on a long, strong stem, and is a good cutter and keeper. We have never seen an open center in the four years we have had it, and last season was a hard test. The general effect is Indian Red, but the color is a very deep rose, shading a trifle lighter at tips	3.00
SHIRLEY BROWN. Old gold and apricot. A large deep flower on long, wiry stem	1.50
SISKIYOU. Mauve pink of immense size on strong stem	7.50
SPA. Violet mauve, on good stem, of dwarf growth..	1.50
SULPHUREA. Clear sulphur yellow. A fine cutter..	.75
SUNKISS. Yellow, shading out to fawn. Good stem..	2.00
TOM LUNDY. One of the largest Hybrid Cactus Dahlias grown. Of a dark velvety red, on long, stiff stems	1.00
WODAN. Of a pleasing delicate salmon-rose, blending to old gold at center, fine habit and good long stems .....	.50
YELLOW KING. A Giant Chrysanthemum of a pleasing shade of yellow, standing straight on a wonderful stem .....	.50



***GAY MORNING. A Fine Decorative of Salmon Buff
Large and Good Stem
\$5.00***

DECORATIVE DAHLIAS

THE Decorative Dahlia is the pride of all Dahlias, standing out pre-eminently. In garden the plants are strong, sturdy, vigorous growers, with heavy, dark green foliage, and a remarkable constitution. The blossoms are produced in great profusion, which is exceptional for a type of giant-flowering Dahlias. For cut-flower purposes they are unsurpassed, having long, straight stems of wiry stiffness, and carry their flowers in a pleasing manner; then principally their lasting qualities when cut—they are unequalled, lasting longer than any of the other types. As an exhibition flower the Decorative Dahlia is the most gigantic of all Dahlia blossoms, having beauty, substance, quality—all essential characteristics of a true "Model of Perfection." As a decorative flower they are first in every respect; being graceful, adapted to designs, and most artistic.

The blossoms of the Decorative Dahlias are large, flat, but beautiful in shape, and full to the center; the petals are somewhat irregularly situated, long, broad, flat and nearly straight.

AGINCOURT. A very large decorative of deepest velvety purple bronze, brightened on outer petals with purple garnet. A robust grower with perfect stem. In our opinion the best of all the dark varieties to date	3.00	DOROTHY ROBBINS. Queen of all autumn shaded dahlias. Buff, ochre, suffused orange red. Unbeatable	1.00
AIBONITA. Lavender pink shaded white, with rich golden center. Of great depth, on medium stiff stem	2.50	DREAM. A peculiar peach pink shade with an amber like glow. Of great beauty and perfect form, standing erect on long, strong stems high above the foliage	1.00
AMUN RA. "The Sun God," and worth the name. Copper and burnt orange, deepening in center to reddish brown, the immense flowers are borne on wonderful stems above a plant second to none in vigor. Fine for cutting, garden or exhibition	2.50	DR. TEVIS. A beautiful shade of soft salmon rose, suffused with old gold shading to a golden apricot center. One of the largest grown; the immense flowers being held erect on fine, long, vigorous stems	.50
ARROW OF GOLD. Pure gold, deepening in center, and shading to apricot and amber at outer petals. Large, deep blooms on good stems	3.50	EAGLE ROCK. Massive flowers of creamy white, blended with an apple-blossom pink; quite distinct	1.00
AZALEA. Soft, creamy yellow. Unusually attractive with its many rows of long narrow florets	1.00	EARLE WILLIAMS. Crimson and white. Fine	2.00
BABA BOTT. Very free flowering variety of delicate pink	1.00	EDITH WOOSTER. A blending of golden yellow and sunset red which cannot be accurately described, but suggests the tea rose. Large flowers on erect stems	1.50
BASHFUL GIANT. Golden apricot. One of Judge Marean's largest	3.00	EL DORADO. An immense bloom of pure gold with deeper center. Exceptionally fine	7.50
BEN WILSON. Reddish orange, tipped gold. Good	1.00	ELIZABETH SLOCOMBE. Large flowers of rich garnet on good stems	2.50
BEATRICE SLOCOMBE. An attractive flower of warm red, edged old gold, shaded rose pink. Good stems	1.00	E. T. BEDFORD. Purple, shading lighter. A profuse bloomer of very large flowers	2.00
BLACK JACK. A rich maroon black. Tall grower of a brilliant crimson, on fine stem	5.00	EVELYN ADAMSON. Pinkish fawn suffused gold. A beautiful flower, held erect on long stem	1.00
BLAD-EL-HAMRA (THE RED). A brilliant crimson on fine stem. Good cut flower	1.00	FAITH SLOCOMBE. A large flower of old gold and bronze, tinted with golden red	2.50
BONNIE BRAE. Cream, shaded blush-pink; the flowers are of true decorative form and large in size, but much too heavy for the stem	1.00	FLANDERS FIELDS. This is a mammoth, whorled petaled decorative of a beautiful coloring, lemon yellow shading through sulphury white to the light violet tips. There is a blending of violet mauve, and the edges are penciled with bishop's violet	10.00
BRUSHWOOD BOY. This magnificent bi-colored dahlia is the finest dahlia of its type we have ever grown. Mar's yellow striped, Indian red. Very tall, stem good	10.00	FLORENCE FINGER. A wonderful lavender-pink on perfect stem	1.00
CAMBRIA. Massive full flowers, with broad petals of rich rose pink, toning to white in center. Long stems	1.50		
CARMENCITA. Clear yellow, distinctly penciled with bright scarlet. Beautiful flower of immense size	1.00		
CAROLYN WINTJEN. Salmon pink shaded rose	1.00		
CATHERINE WILCOX. White, tipped cerise	1.50		
CALIFORNIA SUPERBA. A large flower of delicate pink, shading into white at center. Beautiful foliage	3.00		
CHALLENGE. A fine cut flower of deep yellow, suffused crimson	.50		
CHAMPAGNE. A wonderful flower of dull gold, chamois, and a tinge of the dawn. A magnificent variety	5.00		
CLARA FINGER. A fine exhibition bloom of mars yellow, edged pinkish buff. Fine for those who demand size	2.00		
CHARM. A glorious flower of golden ochre shading to a rich amber at tips. Large, on stout stem	2.00		
CLEMENTINA WING. The best red cut flower in the world. Bright crimson, on very long, strong stem	1.00		
CONSTANCY. Mrs. Seal lists this as "one of her most dependable varieties. Color, lively shade of deep, glowing pink. Large on long, strong stems"	3.50		
DAKOTA. A flaming bronze beauty on strong stem	2.00		
DOROTHY FLINT. A blending of salmon and pink with a yellow stripe running through the center of the petals	1.00		
DOROTHY LONG. A very brilliant golden amber, suffused salmon. A large flower on strong stem, that is as attractive as any dahlia we know	2.00		



FRANCES SEAMAN. Very large flowers of lilac pink, with silvery sheen. Fine exhibition variety 5.00

GLORIANA. Old gold with a titian glow in center.. 1.50

GLORIOUS BETTY. A beautifully formed flower of velvety crimson, edged gold, with a gold reverse, on a perfect stem, that holds the flower high above the attractive foliage. A fine flower for cutting, ... 10.00

GLORY OF NEW HAVEN. Color is a beautiful shade of pinkish mauve. Plants are tall, robust growers and produce large blooms on long, strong stems.. 1.00

HALVELLA. A beautiful bloom of rose pink held erect on a fine stem. Excellent for exhibition and cutting 2.50

HAZEL WELTON. A well formed flower of henna, powdered with silver, carried above foliage on a fine stem 1.50

HEART OF DARKNESS. Sold out for 1925

HERCULES. A handsome quilled flower of large size. Deep yellow with tangerine reverse, showing in a two-tone blend 3.00

HOCHSAI. Yellow overlaid with deep red; large flower held erect on long stems75

HORTULANUS FIET. Holland's best dahlia. The coloring of this variety is wonderful—salmon exquisitely blending to yellow at the center 1.00

HORTULANUS WITTE. The color is a waxy, glistening white; a beauty in every sense of the word... .50

INSULINDE. Colossal flowers of a rich golden orange color. Form of flower everything that could be desired. Admirable for cutting and exhibition. One of the most artistic yet produced 1.50

JANE SELBY. Delicate mauve pink of great size and true decorative formation. Wonderful stems, long and stiff; unusually fine for cutting and exhibiting 1.00

JEANNE CHARMET. Pink, deepened at edges of petals and showing lighter shades in center. Large blooms .50

JEAN ROOSEVELT. The finest decorative I have ever grown, and the largest. Amber buff center shading through salmon pink to light pink, with light rose reverse. A perfect flower of great depth on strong stem 10.00

JERSEY'S BEAUTY. Fine pink on very long stiff stem. One of the sensations of last year's shows 5.00

JERSEY'S EMPEROR. Dark maroon of good size on long strong stem 5.00

JOHN R. BALDWIN. Fine cutting variety. Salmon pink25

JUDGE ALTON B. PARKER. Golden buff and very large 1.50

JUDGE MAREAN. A well-known exhibition variety; it is a beautiful combination of colors, salmon pink, orange and gold. A fine grower and free bloomer 2.00

JUNIOR. A well formed flower of deep lavender with a pink tone. This one, enormous under ordinary cultivation, can easily be forced to win "largest in show" prize 2.50

J. W. DAVIES. Deep cerise at center, shading to lighter tint that blends the whole into a glory of color. Large, on fine stems, and a profuse bloomer..... 3.00

JEANNETTE SELINGER. A very large, deep flower of glowing maroon, twisting and showing a lighter reverse. The blooms are often 10 inches across, and the rich coloring of the flower towering on long stiff stems well above beautiful foliage adds glory to any garden. Scored 87 at Storrs 5.00

JERSEY'S PRIDE. A pleasing combination of buff, yellow and pink on good stem 1.00

JACQUELINE DARNELL. Hybrid Decorative of wonderful charm, at base deep buttercup yellow, all petals shaded and tipped rosy mauve. Very large flower on long stem, standing high above perfect foliage 10.00

JESSIE McRORIE. Large tomato red exhibition variety 1.00

KITTY DUNLAP. An excellent cutter of the American Beauty Rose in color, on fine stem 2.00

LADDIE. Soft yellow, deepening to orange. Large and profuse with good stems 1.00

LA TOREADOR. A glowing crimson on good stem.. 1.50

LE GRAND MANITOU. Enormous bloom, white, striped and blotched with deep purple25

LE GROS BETE. A dark cerise of immense size.... 2.50

LIBERTY BOND. A large flower of bronze buff, shaded salmon. A good variety 1.00

LOUISE PARSONS. A pure gold beauty on a wonderful stem. This glorious flower has few equals in the dahlia world, as the cut flowers are in great demand 2.50

LUCERO. Bronze buff, shaded brighter35

MANDARIN. A brilliant yellow of fine formation and perfect stem 1.00

MARCELLA. Clear soft pink variety that is bound to become a great favorite with everyone. A free bloomer on long stems that hold the blooms rigidly erect, perfectly formed and second to none in keeping qualities50

MARGARET YARDLEY. An unusual coloring. The main body a deep bluish lilac flamed with rich pansy violet. The reverse, and outer row of petals lightened with lilac white. The center petals densely formed, the main petals partly fluted, and the large flower is held erect on strong stem 3.50

MARTHA. A golden yellow. Won for us best YELLOW two years at N. Y. Show of A. D. S.... 3.00

MARY C. BURNS. Gold with a red reverse. A very free bloomer with long stems and large flowers.... 1.00

MEPHISTOPHELES. The flowers, which are very large and of fine form, are a vivid scarlet 2.00

MILDRED BURGESS. One of the handsomest dahlias we have ever seen. This, a seedling of Capt. John R. Howell, is a deep garnet, tipped white, and standing on stiff stem above graceful foliage, is sure to draw expressions of admiration from every visitor 5.00

MILLIONAIRE. The color of this variety is a dainty lavender with a pink sheen overcast and shading to white in the center. The flower is immense in size .75

MR. C. H. DRESSELHUYS. Soft rose pink diffused white on splendid stem. The best cutter of its color 1.00

MRS. ATHERTON. A robust grower with mammoth bloom on strong stem, it is peer of the best in yellows 1.00

MRS. CARL SALBACH. A large flower of marsh-mallow pink, lighter in the center, every petal outlined with a deep mauve. The stems are very long and strong, holding the blossom rigidly erect, and I believe it one of the very best cutting varieties produced in America 1.00

MRS. FRYLINCH. Clear, deep scarlet-red. Large size .50

MRS. HUBER. A bright lemon yellow, evenly tipped white. A splendid cut flower, at its best under artificial light 4.00

MRS. I. DE VER WARNER. Everyone who has seen it growing pronounced it the acme of perfection. In color it is a deep mauve pink, some might describe it as a cattleya color. Splendid for exhibition and garden 2.00

MRS. JOHN T. SCHEEPERS. Clear canary, shading to pink on outer petals. A beautiful dahlia..... 3.00

MRS. J. R. HOWELL, (Howell). An immense lilac Decorative with beautiful shadings. Magnificent variety 3.50

MRS. OPPENHEIM. A good cut flower of white base heavily edged and shaded mauve 1.00

MRS. R. R. STRANGE. A burnished copper with faint shadings of old rose and old gold. Not only splendid garden flower with its fine large blooms held high above the foliage but also very useful as a cut flower, having the new autumn coloring so much in vogue 1.00

MRS. T. B. ACKERSON. Bright carmine tipped and shaded with whitish pearl; fine cut flower50

MYRA VALENTINE. A wonderful golden bronze flower on remarkable stem. Absolutely best of its color 7.50

MRS. WILLIAM J. ROWE. Amber with clear yellow center. Good 1.00

MRS. WILLIAM H. PEPIN. One of the best whites.. .50



NOBILIS. A sport of, and far superior to EARLE WILLIAMS . More white than red	2.00
OCONEE. This wonderful flower would need a page for a proper description, as its color combination is hard to describe. Amaranth and rose, with autumn shades blended make it a glory of coloring, and size, and stem all make this the perfect dahlia. A few tubers	10.00
ORA DOW. Maroon tipped white, fine and showy....	.50
PA FENTON. Rosy lilac on good stem. Good cut flower .....	.75
PATRICK O'MARA. An unusually soft and pleasing shade of orange buff, slightly tinged with rose. One of the most lasting cut flower dahlias	1.00
PAUL MICHAEL. An exhibition variety of bright apricot, shaded bronze. Good stem, very large....	2.00
PENATAQUIT. The finest autumn colored flower of the year. A deep reddish bronze of large size on a wonderful stem	3.00
PERFECT BEAUTY. Bright scarlet, tipped white. Large and attractive. Exhibition variety.....	1.50
POLARIS. Pure white decorative dahlia, flowers of immense size and perfect form, held well above the foliage on strong stems; habit is dwarf, strong and vigorous; a flower with every good quality.....	1.00
POLAR BEAR. Snow white, of fine form, and good keeper when cut	1.00
PRIDE OF CALIFORNIA. Red decorative of good form and keeping qualities. Flowers freely on long stems well above the foliage. One of the best .....	.50
PRIDE OF SAN FRANCISCO. A brilliant salmon pink topping a stiff stem. Good cut flower	2.50
PRINCESS MARY. A Holland variety of upright habit. Rich pink margined sulphur on strong stems.....	.50



Two blooms of
**JEAN
ROOSEVELT**
10½ and 10¼
inches.

We
have
grown
this
variety
12 in.
in
Diameter

PRINCESS PAT. A magnificent decorative of a glorious shade of old rose. Large flowers, perfectly formed growing well above the foliage on long erect stems	
PROXIE. An immense velvety crimson on splendid stem	1.00
PURITY. An artistic flower of pure white. Good cutter	1.00
QUEEN JOSEPHINE. A rich, royal purple, suffused white, erect on long stem	1.00
RED PLANET. Very large, broad petaled flower of cerise, touched with gold	3.00
ROBERT LAURIE BLACK. This glorious ivory white variety is really a hybrid show, a flower of great depth, that when fully open almost becomes a ball	2.00
ROOKWOOD. A cerise rose, fine formation, good stem	4.00
ROSA NELL. The color is a clear bright rose, the flowers are large and I consider it the best shaped Decorative Dahlia I have seen, coming perfectly full and double until frost; good stems and habit; color is a rare one in dahlias, and attracts immediate attention	1.00
SAMADH. A very massive dahlia on a strong stem. Body of flower is a purple garnet, deepened with purple brown, the high center tinted with vinous mauve, and many petals show a reverse of same color, making an effective contrast. A very robust grower. Bound to make a record in the showroom because of size	5.00
SAMPSON. A giant of yellow, suffused red, that is one of the most striking flowers in the garden....	1.00
SAN MATEO. A deep yellow heavily splashed scarlet of great substance, fine formation and good stems	1.50
SEQUOIA GIGANTEA. An immense yellow decorative. A very prolific bloomer with good stem....	1.00
SHOWER OF GOLD. Brilliant yellow, deepening to soft apricot towards the center, slightly fluted petals. Large strong stems and a color in demand.....	1.00
SOUV. DE M. SILVENT, yellow striped with carmine	1.00
ST. FRANCIS. Creamy yellow, deepening to pink	5.00
STUNNER. A deep substantial flower of large size. Color a rich clear canary yellow	1.00
SHELIKOFF. Deep garnet. A very full flower	1.00
SHUDOW'S LAVENDER. Silvery lavender, shading to white in center. The long stem carries the flower well above beautiful foliage	4.00
SUNRISE TRAIL. A glorious flower of large size on perfect stem. The main coloring is scarlet, suffused geranium lake, edged and tipped with cadmium yellow. The center, high and finely formed, looks to be a finely formed nugget of gold, and the whole flower gives a dazzling effect. Stock very limited for 1925	10.00
SUSAN G. TEVIS. This beautiful dahlia won us several prizes, and the magnificent bloom, fine stem, wonderful foliage, puts it high in the list of BESSIE BOSTON creations. It is a rich lilac, but of a different shade to any we know. Very floriferous....	7.50
SUNSHINE. Brilliant scarlet, tipped yellow. Large and strong stem .....	.75
SYLVIA DICKEY. Large flowers of phlox pink on perfect stems. A fine cut flower variety	1.00
THE EMPEROR. A large flower, good stem, bright maroon. One of Judge Marean's best	2.00
THE GRIZZLY. A giant beauty, the immense velvety maroon blooms are of finest formation, with reflexed petals. Extra long strong stems	1.00
THEODORE VAIL. A very large bloom of old gold shading to a rich apricot, extra long stems.....	.75
TOMMY ATKINS. Flaming scarlet. A brilliant variety	3.50
TRYPHINNIE. A lovely flower of bright shell pink, lighter at tips, showing gold at base. The rich pink reverse makes this a beauty and the long rigid stem puts it in first rank of cut-flower varieties	2.00
TUSITALA. Old rose, flushed and tipped with rosy salmon. Good stem	2.50
VENUS. Creamy white, suffused lavender. Good cutter	1.00
VICTORY. Pink suffused yellow and bronze, erect on long stem. A fine cutter	1.00
WIZARD OF OZ. Large amber pink flowers on good stem	5.00
WONDER. An immense flower of golden bronze, tinted salmon. Fine for exhibition, cutting or garden	4.00
WORLD'S BEST WHITE. The largest of the white varieties. Cream white with ivory center. Good stems	3.00
YSLETA. The coloring of this dahlia is difficult to describe, being a blending of salmon, orange and coppery tints, reminding one of the Herriot rose ..	1.00



***LA GIOCONDA. (Dec.) Bright Maroon with White Tips on Splendid Stem.
An Improved President Wilson, as far as height, growth and keeping
qualities are concerned. About 5 ft. \$3.00***

PAEONY FLOWERED DAHLIAS

PROMPTED by the great popularity of the Cactus Dahlia, so different from the stiff, ball-shaped Dahlias, but only fitted for exhibition, European hybridizers went after a type suitable for both garden and cut-flower purposes.

By crossing the Cactus with the Single, and vice versa, they developed this new type now popular all over the world. These long stemmed semi-double Dahlias were grown in Holland, and sold as Half-double Giant Dahlias. Mr. H. Hornsveld, an Orchid specialist of Baarn, Holland, immediately saw their possibilities and collected the largest and most promising specimens. The great development and present value of the Peony-flowered type is due to him. After seven years of cross-hybridizing and developing (July, 1904), he was able to show the results at the meeting of the Dutch Horticultural Society at Rosendaal, where he exhibited four varieties, Queen Wilhelmina, Duke Henry, Baron G. de Grancy and Glory of Baarn. Here he received a first-class certificate of Merit, and the admiration and encouragement of growers and lovers of beauty. After Dusseldorf came Paris, Amsterdam, London.

The rich, golden yellow center, loosely arranged petals, large and fluffy, gives them a certain fascination and artistic appearance that none of the other types possess. They are favorite garden and cut-flower dahlias, producing abundantly and continuously. Stems are long and graceful, and their blossoms are remarkably effective in bouquets.

Flowers are Semi-double, having two, three or more rows of broad, flat, loosely arranged rays, or petals, surrounding an open center, which is usually a conspicuous golden yellow. The inner floral rays being usually curled or twisted, the outer rays either flat, or more or less irregular. Sometimes the rays are pointed, occasionally they curl and twist over the center, causing them to resemble the Chinese Peony, hence the name.

AUDREY. A very large flower of sulphur base shaded rose-pink and mauve	1.00
AUTUMN GLORY. An immense flower of a color hard to describe; distinct shade of bronzy cinnamon, burnished with terracotta. Some of the flowers have a broad stripe of rich amber color, running the full length of each petal. Strong grower	2.00
BETTY DARNELL. Canary, brightened with cadmium-lemon, with outer petals of gamboge yellow. This is the finest cutting flower we grow, as stem is exceptionally long and strong, and the flower has wonderful keeping qualities	4.00
BLACK BEAUTY. Very dark maroon on good stem..	.50
BLOSSOM. White with a faint pink at the base of the petals suggesting the dainty colorings seen in the fruit blossoms	1.00
CAMILLE FRACHON. Analine red, deepening to rich garnet, overlaid with silvery sheen. A gorgeous flower of good size, very effective in garden .....	.50
CHANSON. Large flower of bluish lilac	1.50
CITY OF PORTLAND. A clear, deep yellow of immense size. A very popular flower	1.00
CREAM KING. English of the color its name denotes..	1.00
CREATION. Cherry red and golden bronze peony ...	1.00
DEVOTION. A striking old gold, shaded rose. A beauty	1.00
DREAMLIGHT. A beautiful flower of pale old rose pink. Large and good stem	2.50
DRUM MAJOR. An immense peony of brilliant fire, tipped and marked with yellow, and lemon yellow centre	1.00
EDITH CAVELL. An enormous flower of old gold shaded to reddish bronze. One of the best we grow	1.50
EDYTH MINER. Deep rosy magenta, on ox-blood base, forming a rich halo around a massive chrome yellow center. Long, strong stem	2.00
ELSA. Fluffy, cream white flowers, very large, standing high above foliage .....	.50
FLAMINGO. Deep pink on stiff stems. Dwarf grower..	.50
FRAU GEHEIMRAT SCHEIFF. One of the grandest of its color, large flower set on a long stiff stem. Very floriferous, carmine salmon	1.00
GEISHA. Orange red with yellow center. Great flower	1.00
GOLIATH. The color is an intense rich scarlet of twisted form. Blooms, large, full, and erect.....	.75
ISA. Very odd shape of light fawn pink, overlaid with amber. Good habit of growth, free bloomer.....	.75
LATONA. Fine cut flower of pretty pale yellow, tinged buff and lavender. Free, strong erect stems.....	.50
LAURA BARNES. Immense orange red blossoms. Brightest flower in the garden .....	.50
MRS. JOHN BRAY. A fancy peony with white ground speckled and striped with maroon. Good stem...	1.00
MRS. JOHN L. EMERSON. Large, well formed flowers of bright red, effectively splashed and tipped gold	1.00

MME. VAN BIJSTEIN. Lilac-blue. Plants tall and sturdy, holding blooms well above the foliage.....	.50
MRS. JACK GREEN. Flowers of fine formation; full and deep; of large size. A rich scarlet in color...	1.00
MRS. JESSIE L. SEAL. The large flowers are a magnificent old rose held high above the foliage on long stems. An excellent cut flower and profuse bloomer	1.00
NOSTROMO. Bright maroon on long, strong stem...	2.50
MYRA. Good cut flower of lavender with white center	1.00
OREGON SUNSET. A giant of golden yellow, suffused bronzy crimson. A gorgeous flower on fine stem..	2.00
PACIFIC GLOW. A very attractive pink; large	2.00
PEARL RUGGLES. Carmine rose suffused pink, lighter at tips, with white at base. A very artistic dahlia..	1.50
PITTI SING. Showy flower of oriental red and gold...	.75
POLAR STAR. Large white on long upright stems....	.50
PRIDE OF PORTLAND. A magnificent variety of the ever popular "GEISHA" colors, but the yellow is brighter and the red is of a richer shade. It is more double than the old favorite. A healthy, robust grower on strong stems, producing the immense blooms early, freely and constantly all season	1.50
POLLY GRAHAM. A light mauve peony that attracted much attention because of its glorious showing. It towers above the garden on a wonderful stem, and resembles a giant lily	2.00
QUEEN OF THE AUTUMN. A fine flower on good stem, reflecting the colors of fall	1.50
THE ROSARY. A cerise-pink bloom on extra long stem. Of robust growth and good keeper as cut flower .....	.50



UNCLE SAM, Orange buff, shading to salmon. Very large, on good stem	5.00
U. S. A. A lovely flower of vivid orange, on fair stem. Of good formation, often being decorative in type..	1.00
WHITE CLOUD. Pure white on good stem...	.50

SHOW DAHLIAS

THIS class is in all probability the oldest flower form of the dahlia and is therefore more universally known. They are valuable for massing or making especial effect in borders. The advancement in this class has been very pronounced, giving greater depth of bloom on increased length of stem. They make a fine showy room decoration, and will keep fresh longer and stand more handling than any of the classes.

Flowers globular or ball shaped, rather than broad or flat, full to the center, showing regular spiral arrangement of florets with floral rays or petals more or less quilled or with their margins involute (rolled forward or inward) and rounded tip. (Dahlias of this type with flowers spotted, variegated, or parti-colored, were formerly classed as Fancy; a group no longer recognized).

A. D. LAVONI. Sea shell pink, good cutter .....	.25
ACQUISITION. An exquisite shade of deep lilac. Very large with cup-like petals. Especially good for cut flower purposes .....	.35
CLEMENTINE. An extra fine cutting variety, very long stem, good size bloom, pure white .....	.25
EMILY. White, suffused lavender. Similar ELSIE BURGESS .....	.25
FLORENCE. A beautiful pink, splendid stem	1.00
GOLD MEDAL. Canary yellow, striped and flaked red .....	.50
GRACCHUS. Bright orange buff .....	.50
JOHN WALKER. Pure white, good stems .....	.25
JOHAN DOEHLER. Buff, speckled and striped red...	.25
KING OF SHOWS. Splendid flower of gold, slightly shaded pink	1.00

MAUDE ADAMS. White, effectively overlaid delicate pink. Undoubtedly one of the finest of the type..	.50
MRS. J. P. SMITH. A vivid cherry blush over a rich crimson. The largest show dahlia. Introduced by us 10 years ago and still best type show in the world	.50
MRS. WM. SLACK. Blush white, edged purple .....	.50
NORMA. Orange shading to buff .....	.25
NUGGET. Scarlet over yellow. Splendid cutter .....	.75
ORLANDO. Golden tan with rose back, good stems...	.50
QUEEN OF AUTUMN. Orange buff, a grand flower of large size, on fine stem	1.00
SUSAN WILSON. Butter yellow, tipped carmine red...	.25
TOM JONES. Cream yellow, edged and suffused bright mauve pink .....	.50
YUBAN. A fine tan, striped and speckled red	1.00

HYBRID SHOW OR COLOSSAL DAHLIAS

THIS is a type of Dahlia having characteristics of both the Decorative and Show types. The flowers are fully double, broadly hemispherical to flatly globular in form, loosely built so spiral arrangement of florets is not immediately evident; floral rays broad, heavy cupped or quilled, with rounded tips and involute margins.

AMERICAN BEAUTY. Flowers of gigantic size produced on long stems. Color a gorgeous wine crimson .....	.25
BETTY BIRD. There is no other dahlia of its lovely soft pink coloring. The flowers are large, of a perfect Hybrid Show Type without the stiffness of the Show Dahlia, and keep well when cut	5.00
CLARA SEATON. An enormous flower of rich golden bronze or apricot. Very attractive and beautiful..	.50
DR. J. P. KIRKLAND. Dark velvety crimson; large. Stems long and wiry. Plants are very tall .....	.35
DREER'S WHITE. An excellent dahlia for garden effect. Plants strong and vigorous. Color a pure white .....	.25
DREER'S YELLOW. A beautiful dahlia, stems long and straight. The flowers form a sulphur ball .....	.25
D. M. MOORE. A deep velvety Victoria-lake, which is a shade deeper than deep maroon. The nearest approach to black. A mammoth flower produced in profusion on long stems .....	.50

GENERAL MILES. Light violet striped and splashed with purplish magenta. The best variegated Show Dahlia in existence	1.00
GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY. Burnt orange lightening out to buttercup yellow	1.00
GRAND DUCHESS MARIE. A very striking rich buff overlaid orange, reverse petals pink, stems from 12 to 18 inches in length. Good garden variety.....	.35
LILY P. HATHAWAY. A new Hybrid of the highest merit. The coloring is a clear lemon-chrome blending to deep orange toward the center, giving a general impression of light orange yellow. The plants are sturdy and robust, with strong stems...	1.00
MME. MARZE. A grand white variety of perfect form	.50
NORTH CAROLINA. A Pomegranate purple, with pansy purple center. A fine addition to this class	1.00
W. W. RAWSON. Pure white overlaid with amethyst blue. This wonderful combination gives it the appearance of delicate lavender .....	.50

SINGLE DAHLIAS

BECOMING extremely popular because of their simple grace, wonderful stems and adaptability to decorative effect both in garden and house. Open centered; for perfection of flower, eight petaled in circle.

ALBERTA. Yellow base, suffused maroon crimson...	.50
ANEMONE. A fine white and very profuse bloomer..	.50
CAMBRIDGE. A large brilliant crimson with golden disc .....	.25
GOLDEN GLOW. A beautiful flower of autumn gold and terra cotta .....	.50
ISABELLA. White, speckled and striped crimson....	.25
MERRY WIDOW. Gigantic flower of deep scarlet....	.25
MIDNIGHT. Black maroon .....	.25
MOTHER O' MINE. An immense soft white on fine stem	2.00

MRS. CREEVY. A golden buff beauty, unequalled for decorative effect as a cut flower .....	.50
NEWPORT BEAUTY. Large flower on long stem. Rich crimson shaded lighter at edges .....	.35
PARABLE. Purple, tipped white. Very effective ...	.50
PINK CENTURY. The largest of this class. Rose pink	.25
SCARLET CENTURY. Dashing scarlet and of large size	.25
TERRA COTTA. Rich terra cotta with golden sheen..	.25
TWENTIETH CENTURY. Rosy crimson with white disc .....	.25
WHITE CENTURY. Large beautiful white flower....	.25
YELLOW CENTURY. Canary yellow, large flower...	.25
ZONAL. Deep peach pink, bright yellow disc .....	.25

COLLARETTE DAHLIAS

A BEAUTIFUL type of flower introduced by French specialists. The flowers are single, with one or more minor petals, usually of a different color, growing from the heart of larger florets, making a collar for the disk. Great favorites in European gardens and exhibitions, they undoubtedly will become better known, then more extensively grown in America.

ABBE HUGONARD. Purple, petals edged white and white collar. Very large, with strong stems . . . . .	.75
ACHIEVEMENT. A rich velvety maroon, collar white . . . . .	.35
CREAM CUP. Large creamy white, slightly cup-shaped. White collar. A beautiful flower . . . . .	.50
GEANT DE LYON. Enormous flower of maroon with white collar	1.00
HORNET. Maroon with white collar. Extra fine. . . . .	.30
LADY PHAYRE. Chamois suffused henna and crimson. Cream collar	1.00
MAD. SCHWARZATAL. An immense flower, gorgeous purple, each petal tipped white, and a white collar . . . . .	.75

MAURICE RIVOIRE. Red, with white collar . . . . .	.25
MERRY MAID. Pure carmine rose with a clear white collar. Large, perfect form, and very free flowering on fine wiry stems. A most attractive new variety . . . . .	.50
RAFAEL VELASCO. Dark purple with pure white collar	1.00
SAN MATEO STAR. Cerise edged white, white collar	1.00
SOUV. BEL ACCUEL. Orange-red with a yellow collar. One of the largest and most beautiful. A fine flower . . . . .	.50
WM. WELSH. Cream yellow . . . . .	.50
VESTAL. The best pure white collarette. A gem.	1.00

DAHLIAGRAMS

DO not be discouraged if your dahlias do less than you expected the first season. Many of the finer varieties need acclimating, and are much below their best the first year because of changed conditions, but their second year showing will surprise you. A second trial has often proved my first year judgment wrong.

Varieties differ. Every season will not be ideal for every dahlia, but every year will find some varieties at their best.

Size is only of value when allied to all other good points.

A high price and printer's ink is not a guarantee of long life. Many dahlias, introduced with both, died in childhood.

A five-inch flower with stem and substance is worth one hundred mere exhibition varieties.

More blooms of dahlias were used last year than those of any other flower.

No plant equals the Dahlia for length of blooming season.

No plant produces as many blooms.

No plant numbers so many different forms.

No plant gives so great a variety of color.

No plant is so well adapted for decoration, indoors or out.

The growing of exhibition blooms and satisfactory tubers cannot be accomplished in the same hill. If you want 12-inch flowers go after them with nitrate of soda and water, but do not sell, neither pin your faith for another year on the tubers produced. As a man may dig his grave with his teeth, so may a good tuber stunt and die from overfeeding.

To assure blooms for a show, when disbudding allow 12 days from first break in bud to perfect flower.

Make not too rash promises for your seedlings, but let time be your judge. Many a man cuts his throat with his tongue.

An amateur is not one who acquires his stock by trade, carries a shoe box of flowers each morning to a retail florist for a cash consideration, and sends some cut price list of the varieties he grows to the larger growers. Neither is one compelled to do any or all these things before entering as a bona-fide amateur. Thrift is a good characteristic, and to be commended, but whoever does these things is a semi-professional, and his class is the Open To All.

Commercial flowers keep longer, and give better results if not forced. The potash content of a good fertilizer guarantees good keeping tubers.

Green plants are not better than tubers. Neither are they as good. The ratio rightly is 3 to 1, and I would sooner have one good tuber than four green plants.

Green plants do not give better flowers than tubers. Some grower said it, and without thought it was made a stock phrase.

Because of slower growth, that matured flowers about the time of the shows, causing growers to give more care and feed to the coming blooms, the statement was easy to believe. After four years of tests, we have found no difference in size of flower. Tubers yield more flowers. The flowers from tubers have more substance and last longer.

Because of little handling our own green plants mature 80 to 90 per cent. when planted where we can give them the

best of care. An average for four years of bought plants shows less than 50 per cent. mature, and less than 8 per cent. yield what we call marketable tubers.

There is much variation in the time that professional dahlia growers set as the best time for planting. It varies from early April to late July. We are compelled to keep planting from the earliest to the latest date, and base our recommendations on a long and broad experience.

For the best crop of tubers, as soon as the ground is warm, May 10th to 15th. For best exhibition flowers July 1st. For most commercial flowers June 1st to July 15th, saving those varieties of least value for latest planting, as the tuber increase will be small. This is the method followed by other Long Island growers who ship hundreds of dozens of cut dahlias to the market each day.

But after all the weather is King.

Last year we planted 5,000 Mrs. T. B. Ackerson on August 8th. The flowers paid good interest on the investment, though we sacrificed the tubers by leaving them in the ground. This season our late plantings made better tubers than those planted May 1st.

One thousand George Walters, planted on April 29th, lost so much "pep" struggling against the hot, dry spell, that they were beaten in bloom by others planted June 30th, and the tubers were smaller. Both plantings in very sandy soil. The same thing happened to KALIF and F. W. FELLOWS. Green plants set out May 20th matured less than 20 per cent.—burned up. 1,200 set out July 15th matured over 90 per cent. Tubers about equal in size at digging time.

The weather was responsible.

After all, the weather is King. But the grower with a small garden or a few hundred hills of dahlias can depose the King, and reign in his stead. Can water, feed and care for each hill, stake and shade them, and give the dahlia nearly all the very best season affords.

If you choose dahlias in the showroom, you are sure of the color. If you choose dahlias from the field, you are sure of everything but judgment, but you get what you know you want. And if a variety appeals to you, if you love it for a grace and beauty your eye discerns, you have chosen wisely.

Taste is an individual characteristic. The giant decorative may be anathema to the lover of the graceful single or collarette. The dainty pompon will appeal to many for whom the large flower has no attraction. Because we find a variety that we bought from catalogue description does not fit our mental vision, nor suit our taste, is no reason for reviling the originator. It is only sure that his likes and ours fail to agree. No grower wastes his garden and catalogue space on a variety that does not please him. It costs as much to raise and sell a poor flower as a good one.

A good stem is the most requisite part of a dahlia. Every shade and tint, will find admirers, but every admirer of any color must have the flowers on a stem that carries it where the eye may see its beauties.

The demand for size has done more harm to the dahlia than all other pests combined. Forcing for the showroom, weakens the tubers.



Our Winning Vase of Pompons

The POMPON or BOUQUET DAHLIA

NAMED from the French word signifying ornament for headdress, in military parlance "tuft," because of its resemblance to the ball of wool worn on the shakos of the Voltigeurs in 1800 and adopted later by English regiments, changing into the shaving brush adorning the headgear of the French infantry of the line in 1850. The name of this variety has many variations, Stredwick insisting on PomPom, West Pompone, and one of our American growers Ponpon. This is the best all-round class for every purpose, exceedingly floriferous, unbeatable for a border because of its low growth—about 2 feet—and closely formed bush, unexcelled for Bouquet and vase work, and running the range of every color shade found in the larger classes. We are great rooters for this class and believe we grow more varieties of it than any other grower.

Flowers of this type for show purposes should be double ball shaped rather than flat, full to center, petals quilled or with rolled-in edges, rounded tops and less than 2 inches in diameter.

ACHILLES. A very dainty pink .....	.25	KLEINE DOMATA. Orange buff .....	.25
ADELAIDE. Blush, edged lavender .....	.25	LADY BLANCHE. White, and a good bedder .....	.50
ADMIRAL DOT. Perfect flower. Tinged lavender....	.50	LASSIE. Yellow tipped rose .....	.35
ALEC. Cerise, tipped white .....	.35	LITTLE BEAUTY. Shrimp pink .....	.25
ALEWINE. Blush white, tipped lavender .....	.25	LITTLE BEESWING. Golden yellow, tipped cherry red	.50
AIMEE. Bronze .....	.50	LITTLE DOROTHY. Cream. Splashed reddish orange	.25
AMBER QUEEN. Amber, shaded apricot .....	.35	LITTLE HERMAN. Red and white .....	.25
ANNE DONCASTER. Yellow base, suffused pearly pink .....	.50	LITTLE JENNIE. Primrose, and very free .....	.50
ARIEL. Buff, tinted orange. Splendid cutter .....	.25	MACBETH. White, edged pink .....	.50
BACCHUS. Bright scarlet .....	.25	MADLINE. Pale primrose, edged purple .....	.50
BELLE OF SPRINGFIELD. Red, very small .....	.50	MARIETTA. Rosy crimson .....	.25
BLUTROCHEN. Blood red, rose points .....	.25	MARS (WARE). Bright scarlet .....	.25
BOB. Compact bloom of dull red .....	.75	MARY CLIFT. Light maroon .....	.25
BRUNETTE. Crimson, showing white .....	.25	MIDGET. Salmon shaded peach .....	.25
CARDINAL. Intense fiery scarlet, long stem .....	.35	MONTAGUE WOOTEN. White edged and shaded lake	.50
CATHERINE. Bright yellow .....	.25	NAUTILUS. Rich apricot, with golden yellow center..	.35
CHARMING. Lavender pink .....	.75	NEATNESS. Salmon-pink .....	.25
CLARA HARSH. Yellow, tipped crimson .....	.25	NELLIE BROMHEAD. Mauve on light ground	1.00
CRIMSON QUEEN. Deep, rich crimson, fine .....	.25	NERISSA. Soft rose, tinted silver .....	.50
CYRIL. Almost black, very small and finely formed...	.35	OMEGA. Amethyst, tipped white .....	.75
DAINTY. White shaded pink .....	.75	PHOEBE. Orange scarlet, fine .....	.50
DAISY. Amber salmon .....	.50	PORTIA. Deep mauve, shaded pink, silver center....	.50
DANDY. Orange, very free .....	.75	PRIDE. Dark crimson scarlet; very perfect form....	.25
DARKEYE. White ground, tipped lavender .....	.25	PRINCESS ROSINE. Salmon pink .....	.50
DARKNESS. Maroon .....	.25	PSYCHE. Orange, shaded pink; flat .....	.25
DARKEST OF ALL. Black maroon, grand .....	.50	RED INDIAN. Deep coral red .....	.25
DARKSOME. Deep wine crimson. Graceful .....	.25	RENO. Rose, shaded old gold .....	.75
DAYBREAK. Light pink .....	.25	RIVAL. Flame color, a gem for cutting .....	.25
DEE-DEE. A dainty witch in lavender	1.00	ROSEA. Dark rosy cerise .....	.25
DELICACY. Pearl .....	.25	SANTOY. Pure white, edged carmine .....	.25
DEWDROP. White with lavender edges and tips .....	.25	SARAH BERNHARDT. Yellow tipped cerise .....	.50
DOUGLAS TUCKER. Golden yellow edged crimson..	.50	SCARLET GEM. A fine scarlet .....	.25
DR. JIM. Purple, shaded white .....	.25	SNOWCLAD. White .....	.25
EDITH BRYANT. Yellow, shaded reddish bronze....	.50	SNOWDRIFT. A dead white, grand .....	.25
EILENE. Mauve on long stem, large .....	.25	SUNBEAM. A flaming crimson scarlet .....	.25
ELAINE. Pure white .....	.25	SUNSHINE. A vivid scarlet .....	.25
ELIZABETH. Golden yellow, edged brownish red....	.50	THORBE. Yellow ground, shading lavender .....	.25
ERNEST HARPER. Coral red .....	.35	TINY TIM. Soft peach pink, one of the best	1.00
EURYDICE. Blush tipped with purple .....	.25	TOMMY KEITH. Red tipped white .....	.35
EVA. A fine formed white .....	.25	TULLA. Wine crimson, wonderful bloomer .....	.35
FASHION. Orange .....	.35	VIVID. Bright orange scarlet .....	.25
FRAU DR. KNABBE. High built bloom of flesh pink..	.25	WHISPER. Yellow edged red .....	.25
GANYMEDE. A beautiful shade of fawn .....	.50	WINSOME. Real pink. Wonderful exhibition flower..	1.00
GEORGE IRELAND. A dainty mauve, fine stems .....	.50	ZOE. Clear yellow, sometimes tipped white .....	.25
GIRLIE. Pinkish mauve, splendid .....	.25		
GLORIA WYNNE. Royal purple, very small	1.50		
GLOW. Salmon-cerise. A flame .....	.50		
GOLDIE. Pure gold	1.00		
GOLDEN QUEEN. Rich yellow .....	.25		
GRAUS AM. WEIN. Soft amber shaded cerise .....	.25		
GUINEVERE. Salmon pink .....	.75		
GYPSY. Yellow, flushed red. Small .....	.75		
HARRY SNOOK. Clear rosy pink. Fine .....	.50		
HAZEL. Small, finely formed, of buff deepening to brown .....	.75		
HEDWIG POLLWIG. Red with white blotches .....	.50		
HELEN COTTRELL. Baby pink, large .....	.50		
HIAWATHA. Deep, blackish maroon crimson	1.00		
HIGHLAND MARY. Pink and white .....	.25		
HILDA SEARLE. Yellow tipped red .....	.35		
HYPATIA. Amber, shaded fawn .....	.75		
IDEAL. Clear yellow .....	.35		
JANUS. Ruby crimson .....	.25		
JESSICA. Amber edged red .....	.25		
JOE FETTE. A tiny white .....	.50		
JOHNNIE. Maroon-crimson, beautifully formed .....	.35		



AS to the point at which propagation by cuttings becomes an evil, a point always debatable, I will admit my inability to judge, and I prefer to leave the arguments to those interested. In England, where all orders are filled with green plants, no tubers being used except the pot roots for exportation, the demand for any variety has never reached the point at which evil may come, because each grower benches all clumps to help produce the needed green plants, a few husky cuttings made from each, and any sign of spindling of the shoots on any clump means that clump being tossed into the discard. In our country the slow sure method of the Englishman goes by the board. A one-year seedling attracts attention, the originator rushes it early to the bench, and works it till the last sickly white spear that pushes its two-inch length is stuck in the sand. Was there an evil point? There was, but where? Search me.

This man-made method of propagation has been of great service in filling the gap made by the vast waste of the modern mode of living, but as it is so alien to nature's own methods of propagation, and so much more exacting on the mother plant, it is essential that more care be used by the operator, as well as by the buyer of the plants. Nature's increase is normally by seed pod or tuber, and this super-normal increase by cuttings may give better results than nature's own method, as claimed by the advocates of green plants, but I have never found it so, and would no more believe the statement, contrary to my own experience, than if some biologist informed me that he had discovered a method of propagating life, of a far higher order, at twenty times the normal rate. Everything has a limit, and when one goes beyond that limit, trouble begins. If man, animal, or flower is weakened through overwork, or want of care, each becomes easy prey to any trouble that is waiting for a nesting place.

I do not believe that propagation by cutting causes disease, except in that it may give a number of weak plants that become easy prey to disease, and I also am sure that a certain amount of propagation by cuttings from the healthiest clumps will give better plants than can be gotten from the tubers of the poorer clumps.

But the trouble with the argument for plants is that it is based, not so much on an altruistic foundation as on a finan-

cial one. It is not so much that the grower is working for healthier, stronger plants, as that he is working for easier and quicker profit. If every grower was imbued with the desire for bettering dahlias, there would be little fear of green plants becoming a menace to the future of the greatest flower in the world.

If, instead of indiscriminate selection, each grower would propagate only those clumps starting quickly into life, and await the normal sprouting, instead of forcing the spears with a high bottom heat, there would be less kick about plants. On a test of two clumps of Mrs. Warnaar, one benched at the back of glass house with no heat, the other in front bench over a bottom heat of 70 degrees, I found what made the difference between good plants and absolute failure. The heated clump made 60 cuttings against 11 for the unheated. The 60 gave fair flowers, and stringy roots, useless for trade. The 11 gave 31 saleable tubers and perfect flowers all season.

Every argument is governed by self interest, and experience alone gives wisdom.

Because of the seeming cheapness of plants I bought several hundreds each season for years, but during 1924 I bought less than 200, many of these being plants of varieties that I could not get tubers of. Plants have been good and bad. The best plants I ever received, husky, healthy colored, packed in the best manner I have ever seen, were no more satisfactory than the worst, because the worst died and eliminated all further overhead. While with the best, we worked and hoped, but failed to get from that batch one good tuber, though they flowered well. The fact that most of the small lot was the variety Pres. Wilson, was, no doubt, partly responsible for the bad showing of the whole batch.

Even with my own plants rooted, potted, set out and cared for at the time best suited for the plants, I would not dare say they were one-half as good as a tuber. The most satisfactory plants I ever grew were some of Amun Ra and Susan G. Tevis, and whereas each of these varieties averaged three good saleable tubers, tubers of the same variety in the same ground, with less work and worry than the plants demanded, averaged seven good tubers. The plants had many small tubers, that we term planting stock, and just as good for me as the largest would be, but they had no sure value.

FERTILIZER

A primer on fertilizer formulas would be of great help to most large growers, as well as to the owners of very small gardens. More often than not, the buyer has little idea of the real value in the sack he receives. It is fertilizer, and whether it is suited to the ground he will plant, or the crop grown, is seldom considered. Most fertilizer manufacturers are compelled to sell a cheap mixture, one low in potash, and high in phosphoric acid, this last ingredient being mostly acid phosphate.

Dahlias, like potatoes, require nearly four times as much potash as phosphate, and double as much potash as nitrogen. That is, a normal crop harvested from an acre of ground will rob that ground of the above proportion of fertilizing ingredients.

Most of the nitrogen can be replaced by a cover crop or manure, and though too much nitrogen will force a heavy growth of bush at the expense of tuber and flower, there must be some easily available for starting growth quickly, especially for green plants.

Potash is absolutely necessary for the starch and sugar contained in the tuber, and if absent in a great degree, the plant, though seemingly healthy and vigorous, will produce smaller and many imperfect flowers, and tubers that have neither size nor stamina. Such plants, poorly nourished, are easy prey for pests, and susceptible to fungus. Potash salts are very valuable in this one thing alone, as they strengthen the plants against the attack of fungus, and investigation has proved their value in driving away cut worms, borers, and all other pests, as they dislike its bitterness.

A two-year test on my farm proved conclusively to me that proper fertilizing is necessary, and that a well balanced ration will show its value plainly in growth and crop.

This test, carried on by a field expert under the direction of Dr. H. A. Huston, involved the use of a differing formula on 12 plots of land, marked out and adjacent to each other.

I had always advocated dispensing with fertilizers, because my own tests had shown poor results from their use. The reason had been my ignorance of fertilizing values, and improper formulas. 6x6x4 meant only what it said to me. I had never stopped to inquire the difference in derivatives and values.

6x6x4 meant just that. How was I to know that the cheaper, more generally used muriate of potash contained

injurious chlorides, and that sulphate of potash is best suited to root crops? But I learned.

The results at the end of the second year seemed convincing, but not till the past season did I really grasp the value of potash. During the war most fertilizers were minus this most necessary ingredient, and no doubt much of the weakness of many modern dahlias began during this period. My conclusions, based on what I saw during the experiment, were these: Nitrogen alone was harmful. Phosphate alone valueless. Phosphate plus nitrogen failed to give as good plants or flowers as did the unfertilized plots used as a basis for judgment, and the tubers did not keep as well. Nitrogen and potash, and phosphate and potash, both fell short of the full mixture. Each year gave much the same impression, and each winter the clumps were weighed, tubers numbered, and the final values reached with reasonable certainty.

The past year has done most to convince me of the value of the formula 4x8x10 for our soil and crop. Many of the tubers used in the two-year test were planted together on unfertilized land during the past season, and the crop was surprising evidence of the value of a fertilizer of the formula I now use. The tubers grown on the full fertilized plot during the two test seasons, made large clumps of perfect tubers, and not only the size and number were greater, but their keeping quality proved all that could be desired. During what was a bad season because of extreme drouth followed by storm, the plants could easily be picked out in the field, and the flowers were brighter, and seemed to have more substance.

I am using a fertilizer 4x8x10, and though there is no such thing as a best formula that will suit all soils and conditions, I believe this one will do as well as any for dahlias. The ingredients for this formula were chosen by an expert after many tests, and put up for me by one of the best manufacturing companies.

This near-perfect fertilizer for dahlias is for sale in 100-pound bags and is the best fertilizer for all gardens and truck farms. A trial will convince you of the great value given. Orders should come in as early as possible, as only a limited quantity of this particular formula is mixed for us.

Send \$3.00 for a bag and help insure the glory of your garden.

100-lb. Bag \$3.00. Per Ton, \$50.00 F. O. B.

PAGE SPRING!

The trees are bare and the world is dead:
Static brays from my Neutrodyne:
Christmas robbed me of my last red:
Calico flowers fill my fav'rite stein
And mock my gaze as I dryly dine:
The Ku Klux Klan is shadowing me:
None of these ills would bring a whine
If only my garden bloomed for me.

Cross-word puzzles and Brindell free:
The income tax and notes past due:
"What Price Glory" or "Rose Marie":
Hylan stirring the subway stew:
Statutes painting the whole world blue:
Is the next amendment twenty-three?
A "DIGEST" straw vote can prove it true
If only my garden blooms for me.

Time is fleet and the days go by
Stacking the sheaves of unpaid bills:
Hyjackers flourish, our debtors die:
The cost of coal will cure the chills:
SOME JACK it will take to hold the Jills
While the Reno road is fast and free:
Each bimbo may do whatever he wills
If only my garden blooms for me.

ENVOI

Prince, I begrudge not the kiss you give
To set the Sleeping Beauty free:
Use half a reel if you make her live
So only my garden blooms for me.

